

**Epiphany Lutheran Church
Church Council Meeting
May 10, 2022**

Attendance: Pastor Brad Gee, Cindy Ganem, Jill Schellhase, Lynn Rigelman, Mark Low, Carl Langwell, Dell Moller

Excused: Dave Zimmer, Sarah Smart, Christine Renner

Call to Order: Pastor Brad called the meeting to order.

Prayer: Pastor Brad opened the meeting with prayer.

Devotion: Cindy shared her thoughts on the hope that God has given us to anchor our souls to Him and help us to continue to “run and not grow weary.”

Benevolence Partner presentation: The representative from LOMO was not able to attend due to scheduling issues.

Minutes/Approval: There being no corrections or changes, Council dispensed with the reading of the April 12, 2022 Minutes and April 19, 2022 Special Minutes. After motion by Dell Moller and second by Lynn Rigelman, motion carried to approve these Minutes.

Treasurer’s Report: Dave had previously provided Council with the April 2022 Treasurer’s Report, which notes our YTD Gifts were more than Expenses by \$5,505 but were less than prorated budget by \$14,411; our Gifts are almost \$40,000 less than they were last year at this time. Operations Expenses are less than prorated budget, since fewer face-to-face activities are occurring during the ongoing COVID-19 situation. Fund Balance is \$31,548; cumulative fund balance brought forth from prior years. The total benevolence is limited to 10% of the giving amount.

Other Fund Balances are: Gifts & Furnishings \$96,799; Memorial Fund \$47,816; Share the Light \$4,946; Unrestricted Savings \$61,448; 2022 National Youth Gathering \$28,788; Non-budgeted Funds \$33,649; Capital Campaign Fund \$110,017.

Large Disbursements over \$1,000 were noted on a separate spreadsheet, previously provided to Council, which was the Hoops for Haiti paid out.

Monthly Bank Reconciliation: Bank accounts reconciled for Chase Operating Account; Chase Money Market Account; and Chase Endowment Savings Account (see tab on full spreadsheet for details).

Bank Balances are: Operating Accounts \$115,757; \$294,560 (Chase Operating accounts & Money Market Account). Endowment Cash & Investments \$264,500.

Other Item(s): Nature and extent of future reporting at discretion of new treasurer and council needs. This will continue as is until I get a better handle on what is available and what is desired by the church council. Feel free to request any additional information that you feel may be helpful in order to fulfill our fiduciary duties.

There were no questions or corrections on the Treasurer's Report. After motion by Lynn Rigelman and second by Cindy Ganem, motion carried to approve the April 2022 Treasurer's Report.

Pastor's Time:

- Epiphany members will be marching in the June 18 Columbus Pride Parade
- Lynn Rigelman has agreed to take over the open Youth Council position for the remainder of 2022. After motion by Dell Moller and second by Jill Schellhase, motion carried approving this change.
- In honor of National Missing Children's Day, there will be a presentation on human trafficking on May 14 at Epiphany. Connect has the details.
- **Council is being asked to attend a 3-part workshop entitled Building Capacity for Relational Equipping. This workshop will be held on Oct. 10, 17, and 24 from 7p-9p.** Other attendees will include the Office Staff and the members of the inclusive team; depending on space, it may also be open to interested Epiphany members. The workshop will be led by Sandra Quick and will cover the importance of inclusivity of all races here at Epiphany.
- The form was sent in to include Epiphany in the Pickerington July 4th Parade. There will be some kind of handout—the rainbow pens, a bookmark Laura Reed made, and an informational card about us.
- Joseph's Coat will hold a "shred-it" day in our parking lot on Saturday, Aug. 13. Question was asked if they make money on this; Pastor Brad will ask them—we assume so. The Youth will have some kind of fund-raising event on the same day. On that note, the paper collection bin that was on our parking lot has been permanently removed. Evidently the Pickerington School Board asked that all bins be taken back by the company who supplied them as they were not emptying the bins on a regular basis; not sure why our bin was also removed. This was a money maker project for our Youth.
- Nine new members will be received on Sunday, May 15 (includes 2 baptisms): Mike Parsons, Robert and Michelle Adams, and the family of Josh and Stacia Thornton (Daniel, Caleb, Elijah, Ada). After motion by Cindy Ganem and second by Carl Langwell, motion carried approving the addition of these new members to Epiphany.
- The Singing Buckeyes will hold a concert here on the afternoon of Aug. 21.
- The new sound board has been purchased and Drew will be installing it. With the purchase of new mikes and cables, the total cost is expected to be around \$5,200; we approved up to \$7,500 for this project.

- The Administrative Assistant transition from 2 part-time to 1 position is still going well. We need 1 or 2 volunteers to be trained to cover when Dori is absent for vacation (she has a 2-week vacation in June) or other reasons, with the coverage hours expected to be 9a-12p; it will be a paid position. If anyone has a suggestion of someone to approach for this purpose, please let Pastor Brad know.
- Confirmation was held this past Saturday evening. Usually this is held during Church service but it was felt safer to have this separate ceremony due to ongoing COVID cases. It is expected to return to the normal Sunday ceremony next year.
- Jamie Ulrich (Intern) is now in the Middle East for a study tour.
- Pastor Brad helped host a dinner at First English where 120 people were served. He believes Mike and Polly Renner are getting a little weary of organizing this effort. He has a couple of people who may be interested in taking over this community outreach.

Committee Reports:

Budget and Finance: Nothing to report.

Congregational Life: Nothing to report.

Evangelism: The one member on this Committee has handed all her notes over to Mark. This Committee is in serious need of new members! Mark asked if we can get David and the band for our usual July 4th parking lot party.

Pre-School Board: As previously reported, we have looked at the possibility of partnering with Head Start. They currently have to take the local children to Lancaster, which is a 1.5 hour drive. They are aware we would also like to reopen our preschool to run concurrent with their program. We met with the Head Start rep in April to get more information:

- They would like to have the use of our nursery since it has a bathroom; we would have use of the nursery on Sundays and Wednesday nights
- Would have up to 20 three and four year olds, staffed by 1 teacher and 1 assistant
- Hours would be from 8:15a to 4:00p
- If we reach an agreement, they would install a climber in our play area which would be ours to keep and our preschool would have the use of it
- They will either pay rent or “pay in kind”; we need to find out what the latter means
- They pay for all their supplies and other items like carpet cleaning
- The plan is to start using our building in January 2023

NOTE: Council had some initial suggestions for language which needs to be in the contract with Head Start such as a hold harmless, spell out the exact use of facilities/equipment, etc. Please let Lynn know of other contract language that should be used.

The Epiphany Preschool would reopen in the Fall of 2023 for 3-year olds and pre-kindergarten children, using the quad room and the HMOC. We plan to expand the hours to make it more palatable for parents. We would like to open a full-time pre-kindergarten down the road, once we have the money to pay for additional teachers. Elaine Schroeder has been approached about

taking on the Director's position. We will be talking with the Office Staff on the 14th to see if they have ideas for other space that could be used for our Preschool purposes.

Property: The parking lot striping should be completed this week.

Social Services: Nothing to report.

Youth: Vacation Bible School is in the middle of registration (through June 1). Six youth were confirmed. There are plans to hold a "discipleship tour" for the youth to take on some local service projects over the summer. The 2024 Youth Gathering will be held in New Orleans.

Other Business:

Question was raised about the ongoing lack of volunteers/interest in helping with the various tasks that keep Epiphany running. Pastor Brad said there are plans to hold a Ministry Fair in August for this purpose—to get people acquainted with all our service programs and hopefully get them interested in helping out.

Lynn advised she will not be here for the June meeting.

Next Meeting: Tuesday, June 14th, at 7:00p at the Church. Sarah is scheduled to have the devotion.

Adjournment: Pastor Brad led Council in the Lord's Prayer and the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Cindy Ganem

Cindy Ganem, Secretary